Performance Audit

Criminal Justice Information Center

Michigan Department of State Police

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Effective October 1, 1999, the Michigan Department of State Police (MSP) renamed its Central Records Division to the Criminal Justice Information Center (CJIC). CJIC is committed to ensuring the accessibility and utility of criminal justice information for all users, while maintaining the integrity of all records through training and quality control.

Audit Objectives:
1. To determine the accuracy of criminal justice information maintained by CJIC and accessible through the Law Enforcement Information Network.

2. To assess the effectiveness and efficiency of selected CJIC functions.

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Audit Conclusions:
1. The accuracy of the criminal justice information maintained by CJIC needed improvement (Findings 1 through 5).

2. CJIC functions selected for review were generally effective and efficient.

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Noteworthy Accomplishments:
During 2000, CJIC, in conjunction with the State Court Administrative Office (SCAO), accomplished a major undertaking to reenter into the Injunctive Order Records System (IORS) approximately 12,000 mental health court orders that had been

erroneously removed prior to May 1999 based on a programmed expiration date for the orders. Also, CJIC developed a limited access system known as ICHAT (Internet Criminal History Access Tool) to improve user accessibility to criminal history records. ICHAT supports Web browser access to State criminal convictions to provide the ability to conduct criminal background searches on applicants. The use of ICHAT relieves the demand on CJIC staff for criminal background searches.

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Reportable Conditions:
1. Accuracy of Criminal Justice Information
   CJIC controls were not sufficient to ensure the accuracy of criminal justice information in the Criminal History Records System (CHRS) and the Injunctive Order Records System (IORS). Our assessment of the accuracy of criminal justice information disclosed significant percentages of criminal justice data related to felony and misdemeanor

arrests; court case dispositions; and court orders were not recorded in CHRS and IORS. In addition, CJIC did not possess all criminal justice records completed by arresting law enforcement agencies and courts. (Finding 1)

MSP and the State Court Administrative Office (SCAO) agree with the corresponding recommendation.

2. Reporting to the Department of Attorney General
CJIC did not report to the Department of Attorney General criminal justice agencies that were not submitting required criminal history records to CJIC (Finding 2).

MSP agrees with the corresponding recommendation.

3. Concealed Weapon (CCW) Statute
A conflict exists between the criminal justice records that are required by statute to be reported to CJIC and the criminal justice records that are necessary to accurately determine the qualifications of CCW license applicants. As a result, the potential exists for ineligible applicants to be granted CCW licenses. (Finding 3)

MSP agrees with the corresponding recommendation.

4. Timeliness of Warrant Entry
CJIC did not ensure that courts and local law enforcement agencies recorded warrants on a timely basis into the databases accessible through LEIN (Finding 4).

MSP and SCAO agree with the corresponding recommendation.

5. Audits of Criminal Justice Records
CJIC should improve its methodology for auditing criminal justice data by developing procedures to determine that all criminal justice data is included in CHRS (Finding 5).

MSP agrees with the corresponding recommendation.

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